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31 January 1967

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Subject: Contract

We are pleased to submit the fourth in a series of progress reports covering the effort expended on subject program, from December 16, 1966 through January 15, 1967.

Liquid Modules

A test rig incorporating the new modules reported last month was fabricated in order to evaluate the separation effect of the new air bearing and also to evaluate a new but final temperature control system. The tests showed that the new modules performed satisfactorily and that the air bearing removes surface solutions evenly and cleanly. The temperature control system was proven to control the temperature within + 1/4° F over a period of several days.

Replenishing

A system for continuous replenishment of solutions was also incorporated in the above test rig and operated satisfactorily.

Dryer

The dryer air knife mold manufacture is completed and test moldings are under examination for dimensional accuracy, defects, etc. before final installation.

The dryer section has been designed and will consist of the new air knives operating in conjunction with infra-red heaters, controlled to suit the maximum operating speed of 10 fpm. The dryer is of such a compact nature that the original concept of placing it above the tanks over the full length of the machine has been discarded. The

new dryer will be positioned conventionally at the end of the machine, thus giving greatly increased access and maintainability to the processor for a slight increase in overall length, in addition to eliminating the 180 degree change in direction of the film path. With the removal of the dryer from above the tanks, an improved arrangement of the air ducts to each side of the modules becomes possible, leading to an improved and cleaner overall design of the processor.

Main Framework

The main support structure has been designed and is in manufacture. All tanks are also in manufacture.

Completion of assembly ready for sensitometric testing is now anticipated by February 24, 1967.

A normal scientific sensitometric evaluation of the processor will require an additional time span of approximately 30 to 45 days. Allowing for a reasonable period of final debugging and fine tuning, the processor will thus be ready for shipment on or about April 28, 1967.

An appropriate contract schedule change should be made to reflect the revised estimated delivery date.

The funds committed and/or expended to date on Phase II, are approxi-
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Sincerely,

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